Availability of Electronic Equipment

†816. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the possibilities of expansion and development in the field of information technology can languish due to shortage of electronic equipments during the coming years;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) the policy of Government for motivating the electronic equipment manufacturing industry to manufacture sufficient number of equipment?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Wage settlement

817. SHRI'JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the terms of wage settlement has expired in most of the PSUs since last two/three years; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that new negotiations have not been initiated in those PSUs because of some embargo imposed by Government which includes the raising of settlement period from five years to ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The terms of wage settlement have expired for most PSUs during the last few years. The concerned PSUs are to negotiate

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

the new terms of settlement within the prescribed parameters including the issue of period of settlement.

Welfare of agricultural labourers

†818. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minsiter of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had sent a proposal to the State Governments for the creation of a fund of Rs. one thousand crore for the welfare of agricultural labourers of the country by realising the same from the agricultural land owners;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal;

.(c) whether the reaction of the State Governments on this proposal has been obtained; and

(d) if so, the reaction of each of the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) A proposal to enact a comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers is under consideration of the Government which *inter-alia* includes creation of a Welfare Fund by contribution from landowners and a token contribution from workers for providing certain welfare/social security measures to these workers. There were certain reservations expressed by a few State Governments on some of the components of the draft legislation including identifying the source of the fund. As it is the endeavour of the Government to reach a consensus on the matter, a Conference of the State Labour Ministers was again held on 18.1.2000 in New Delhi when views of the State Governments were obtained. The proposal is being re-examined on the basis of the views/comments of the State Governments.

† Original notice of the question received in Hindi.